Nuclear Power Plants in Maharashtra

405. SHRITARIQ ANWAR:
SHRIVIJAYJ. DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared a proposal to set up three more nuclear power plants in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the capacity and location of the new power plants; and

(c) the estimated cost thereof, its feed stock, and how its cost would be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) There are three nuclear power reactors with a capacity of 860 MWe in operation and one reactor of 540 MWe under construction (94% complete) atTarapur in Maharashtra. The Government has accorded 'in principle' clearance for a new site in Maharashtra at Jaitapur in Ratnagiri district. A detailed Project Report containing *inter alia* the capacity, estimated cost etc has not been formulated.

Completion of Nuclear Power Projects

406. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been cost and time over runs in the completion of nuclear power projects;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the country does not have sufficient quantity of quality fuel to run the Nuclear Plants; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to address the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) With the completion of Unit-4 of Tarapur Atomic Power Station by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy seven months ahead of the projected schedule, and the work on 8 other

reactors progressing as per schedule, there is no time and cost over-run in the completion of the ongoing projects.

(c) and (d) The indigenous uranium available in the country can support a capacity of 10,000 MWe. However, with the c.losed fuel cycle approach needing reprocessing of spent fuel which India has adopted, the potential of electricity generation is enhanced many times. The first of its kind reactor using fuel recovered after reprocessing of spent fuel is under construction at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu.

Nuclear Power Target by 2020

407. SHRI R.K.ANAND:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target set for Nuclear Power Production by year 2020;

(b) what would be the investment required to achieve this target,

(c) whether it is a fact that per unit cost of production of the nuclear energy is still higher in the country as compared to thermal and Hydro Power;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is also a fact that the nuclear power plants are working at less than installed capacity;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) what steps are being taken to reduce the per unit cost of production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The existing installed nuclear power capacity of 3360 MWe will increase to 7280 MWe by March 2011 with the progressive completion of projects under construction. The target is to reach a total nuclear power capacity of 20,000 MWe by the year 2020.

(b) The estimated investment, at 2005 prices, is about Rs. 5.2 crore per MWe. This is proposed to be met through a combination of Domestic Budgetary Support, Foreign credit, market borrowing and surpluses generated by nuclear power generation.